

One Hundred Seventh Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Wednesday,
the twenty-third day of January, two thousand and two*

Concurrent Resolution

Whereas on September 11, 2001, while Americans were attending to their daily routines, terrorists hijacked and destroyed four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, and a third into the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C.;

Whereas the valor of the passengers and crew on the fourth aircraft prevented it from also being used as a weapon against America;

Whereas thousands of innocent Americans were killed and injured as a result of these attacks, including the passengers and crew of the four aircraft, workers in the World Trade Center and in the Pentagon, rescue workers, and bystanders, making these attacks the deadliest terrorist attacks ever launched against the United States;

Whereas when the gravest moments came, many regular Americans, relying on courage, instinct, and grace, rushed toward the flaming buildings in order to rescue or toward terrorist-controlled cockpits in order to resist;

Whereas by targeting symbols of American strength and success, these attacks clearly were intended to assail the principles, values, and freedoms of the United States and the American people, intimidate the Nation, and weaken the national resolve;

Whereas while the States of New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania bore the brunt of the terrorist attacks, every State and Territory and all Americans were affected and mourned these tragic losses;

Whereas Americans reached out to help strangers who had lost loved ones, colleagues, and their businesses;

Whereas local, State, and Federal leaders set aside differences and worked together to provide for those who were attacked and to protect those who remained;

Whereas Americans continue to repair damage to buildings and the economy, while relishing the freedoms they enjoy as Americans;

Whereas on September 14, 2001, in Public Law 107–40, Congress authorized the use of “all necessary and appropriate force” against those responsible for the terrorist attacks;

Whereas the United States Armed Forces subsequently moved swiftly against Al Qaeda and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, whom the President and Congress had identified as enemies of America;

H. Con. Res. 464—2

Whereas, in so doing, brave servicemen and women left family and friends in order to defend the Nation;

Whereas a year later, many servicemen and women remain abroad, shielding the Nation from further terrorist attacks;

Whereas, while the passage of a year has not softened the memory of the American people, resolved their grief, or restored lost loved ones, it has shown that Americans will not bow to terrorists;

Whereas the Congress has passed, and the President has signed, numerous laws providing additional resources for the overseas effort against terrorism, as well as additional tools for Federal, State, and local law enforcement and judicial systems to protect Americans at home; and

Whereas the Government reexamined the need for domestic security and the Congress is currently considering legislation to create a Department of Homeland Security with the specific mission of preventing further attacks: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes September 11 as both a day to remember those taken from their families, loved ones, and fellow citizens and a day for Americans to recommit to the Nation, to their freedoms, and to each other;

(2) extends its deepest sympathies to the countless innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, their families, friends, and loved ones;

(3) honors the heroic actions of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the innocent victims and, in so doing, bravely risked their own lives and long-term health;

(4) stands in great debt with the American people to the members of the Armed Forces serving both at home and abroad;

(5) praises the people of the United States for their patriotism, compassion, prayers, and generosity in donating time and money to support the innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, their families, friends, and loved ones;

(6) expresses thanks and gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all nations who have assisted and continue to stand in solidarity with the United States against terrorism in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

(7) discourages, in the strongest possible terms, any effort to confuse the war on terrorism with a war on any people or any faith;

(8) commends the President and the brave servicemen and women of the United States Armed Forces in the successful effort to oust the Taliban from power;

(9) remains resolved to pursue all those responsible for the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and their sponsors until they are discovered and punished; and

(10) reaffirms that Congress will honor the memory of those who lost their lives as a result of the September 11,

H. Con. Res. 464—3

2001, terrorist attacks and will defend bravely the citizens of the United States in the face of all future challenges.

Attest:

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Attest:

Secretary of the Senate.